CANADIAN Film Weekly
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*FAMILY DEDICATION — In the name of the late John J. Fitzgibbons, charter member and first chief barker of Variety Club of Ontario Tent 28, a plaque was unveiled in his honor at the recent opening of the new gymnatorium and electronic limb centre at Variety Village in Toronto. On hand for the dedication were Mrs. and Mr. J. J. Fizgibbons, Jr., standing beside the plaque, and Mr. and Mrs. Gene Fitzgibbons and Mrs. and Mr. Kevin Fitzgibbons. Like the village, the electro-limb shop will be operated by the Ontario Crippled Children's Centre and maintained by the Variety Club. The shop, the first of its kind in the world, is an electronically-powered artificial limb components manufacturing plant which could benefit up to 10,000 handicapped children in Canada.*

*—Photo by Bob Cunningham*

## CAPAC wins judgment against Sask. drive-in

Judgment was delivered recently in the Court of Queen's Bench, Saskatchewan by Mr. Justice M. A. Macpherson in an action against Star Dust Drive-In Theatres Ltd. and Hugh Vassos of Melville, Sask. Plaintiff in the action was Composers, Authors and Publishers Association of Canada Ltd. (CAPAC).

The trial took place recently at Melville, Sask. and the court held that the exhibitor Hugh Vassos infringed CAPAC's copyright by performing in the Star Dust Drive-In Theatre the songs "Wrap Up Your Troubles In Dreams", "Sweet Leilani" and "Pagan Love Song". An injunction was granted restraining the exhibitor from performing in public, without the CAPAC license, any musical works the copyrights in which are owned by CAPAC. Damages and the costs of the action were also assessed against the theatre operator.

According to Charles Matheson, licensing manager of the Composers organization, CAPAC has been licensing theatres for 40 years and the annual license fees of from 10¢ to 20¢ per seat, depending on the size of the theatre, are approved each year by a federal government board known as the copyright appeal board. Matheson said that the operator of the Melville theatres was notified on many occasions that it was unlawful to perform copyright music in his theatres without the license of the copyright owners. All warnings were ignored and action followed.

# Censor's annual report lashes out at trailers

Of the 586 feature films submitted to the Ontario Censors Board in the past fiscal year, ending March 31, five were banned in their entirety, 145 were rated "Restricted" and eliminations were ordered in 90. But it was in regards to trailers that O. J. Silverthorn, director of the Theatres Branch of the Department of Tourism and Information, said provided the most vexing problem.

Trailers for "Restricted" films are being shown when children are present, and his department received serious and recurring complaints, Silverthorn said in his annual report. The board of censors eliminated erotic and violent scenes in 56 trailers last year, compared with 43 the previous year.

"We realize that trailers are an essential part of a theatre's advertising sales campaign, "he said, "nevertheless, we may be forced to adopt stricter controls if some theatre maagers do no exercise more discretion in the use of certain trailers. Particularly when they are shown in conjunction with a feature classified as general and children are most likely to be in the audience."

Silverthorn also cautioned theatres to me more careful about the size of classification symbols in newspaper ads. He said classifications for films rated "Adult Entertainment" or "Restricted" often are obscured by art work, or are so small that they are illeligible.

A total of eight theatres in Ontario closed last year. To offset the gloomy aspect of this situation, six new theatres were built, one of them a drive-in. There were six reconstructions, one of which was the Uptown in Toronto which now houses five auditoriums.

The Ontario Censor Board received 16,389 pieces of advertising for approval in the past fiscal year, and rejected 380. This compared favorably with the figures for the previous year.

"The ever-increasing number of 'Restricted' movies being shown at drive-in theatres poses a potential problem: in that under-age persons might be able to view the screen from vantage points around the theatre," Silverthorn reported. "We are aware of this peculiar situation which is causing concern among parents. We are also, on occasion, unjustly accused of not enforcing the age requirement on 'Restricted' movies. Most complainants are misled by observing patrons buying tickets at a common box office for two or more auditoriums, and for a mixed program. Our inspectors constantly check attendance at these theatres and immediately act upon substantiation of any complaints.

"By and large, theatre owners and their staffs are aware of and anxious to accept their responsibility in this matter."

## Screen Gems executive Lloyd Burns, 60, dies

Lloyd Burns, executive vice-president of Screen Gems and president of Screen Gems International, died Monday, May 11th, in London, England. He was 60 years old and lived in New York City.

Canadian-born, Burns was a pioneer in the television film distribution business in Canada. He served as general manager of Telepix Movies Ltd. in Toronto before joining Screen Gems (Canada) Ltd. as vice-president and general manager in 1955. In 1958 he moved to New York where he assumed responsibility for Screen Gems' entire international operations; he was named president of that division in 1966. In 1969, with the merger of Screen Gems, Inc. and Columbia Pictures Corporation, he became vice-president of Columbia Pictures, Inc. He was named executive vice-president of the Screen Gems division in January of this year.

A graduate of McMaster University of Hamilton, Ont., Burns is survived by his widow, Mrs. Goldie Burns; a son, Michael, and three daugthers, Wendy, Barbara and Catherine; his mother, Mrs. Elsie Bernstein and a sister, Mrs. Joy Laski, both of Toronto, and a brother, Vernon, of London, England.

# company reports

## 20th CENTURY-FOX

A dramatic reversal in the operational results of 20th Century-Fox Film Corp. was reported by Darryl F. Zanuck, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of the company, at the annual stockholders' recent meeting in Los Angeles.

Net earnings for the first quarter after taxes amounted to $967,000 entirely based on operational income compared to a fourth quarter net loss of $3,271,000 in 1969. The net earnings for the first three months of 1970 amounted to $.11 per share based on 8,561,815 shares, the average number of shares outstanding during the period. This compares with net earnings in the first three months of 1969 of $2,464,000 or $.31 per share based on 8,006,108 shares outstanding during that period.

Chairman Zanuck credited this upturn to two factors — first, to the outstanding business done by such films currently in release as Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, M*A*S*H, The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie and the two roadshows Hello, Dolly! and Patton, and second, to the initial effects of the organizational and operational streamlining instituted by management.

Richard D. Zanuck, president, revealed that the company was anticipating the largest grossing summer in its history. In addition to the continuing first-run engagements of Butch Cassidy and M*A*S*H, neither one of which shows any signs of letting up, Zanuck stated, "Our three new releases for the summer — 'Beneath the Planet of the Apes', Russ Meyer's 'Beyond the Valley of the Dolls' and 'Myra Breckinridge' — represent the strongest line-up of pre-sold properties that our company has ever had for prime playing time in the high-grossing summer months.

"In addition," he continued, "'Hello, Dolly!' and 'Patton', both highly successfuly in roadshow release, will go into broad reserved performance release this summer, which should add immeasurably to our gross."

## MCA

Earnings of MCA Inc. for the first quarter of 1970 were announced by Lew R. Wasserman, president.

Unaudited consolidated net income for the three months ending March 31, 1970 amounted to $3,021,000 or 37 cents per share on 8,184,067 average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Gross revenues for the quarter totaled $72,814,000.

For the corresponding three months in 1969, consolidated net income was $4,533,000 or 57 cents per share on 7,951,869 average number of shares of common stock outstanding. Gross revenues were $66,631,000 for the first quarter of 1969.

Wasserman stated that revenues from theatrical motion pictures to date are very encouraging. Airport, in particular, is showing exceptional box office strength. Anne Of The Thousand Days also is performing well. These two pictures are playing in a limited number of theatres during the first half of 1970 so that their effect on revenues and earnings will be reflected largely in the last half of the year.

## COLUMBIA

Columbia Pictures Industries, Inc., has reported that the company's sales and earnings for the nine month period ended March 28, 1970 were $182,800,000 and $5,345,000 respectively, as compared to $155,296,000 and $4,721,000 for the comparable period of fiscal 1969. Per share earnings reached $.90 per common share as compared to $.83 for the corresponding period last year.

A. Schneider, chairman of the board, said that substantially higher interest expense and the absence of a sale of feature films to network television, as was realized in the previous year, had mitigated against an even better performance.

Schneider said that Columbia is in its strongest financial position, with cash resources at the highest point in its history.

## Changes in personnel announced by T.C.L.

J. J. Fitzgibbons, Jr., president of Theatre Confections Ltd. has announced the following changes in company personnel, effective June 1.

Douglas Lowes, supervisor, Montreal to Moncton, N.B. as T.C.L. branch manager for the Atlantic Provinces; John Dymont, branch manager, Moncton to head of purchasing department, T.C.L. Toronto; Robert Gardner, head of purchasing to manager of drive-in concessions and direct sales department, T.C.L. Toronto.

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LEN HERBERMAN

*David Griesdorf, executive vice-president of International Film Distributors Ltd., announces the promotion of Len Herberman to the position of general sales manager, effective immediately. Herberman came to IFD a year ago from Montreal as assistant to Morris Diamond, who has now taken on a new appointment as consultant to IFD. Herberman has had broad experience in Canadian distribution, having previously served as manager in Saint John, Winnipeg, Calgary and Montreal.*

## Film Festival awards clean sweep for NFB

Canada's National Film Board topped all producers at this year's American Film Festival in New York with the best film of all entries, as well as seven other first prizes and a second.

The Emily Award, presented each year to the top film of the festival, was won by Norman McLaren's Pas De Deux, which was also judged the winner in the film as art category. Pas De Deux has now won eleven awards in international competition.

Each year, over a thousand films from around the world compete in this the world's largest and most comprehensive festival of 16mm films. Now in its twelfth year, the American Film Festival is sponsored by the Educational Film Library Association.


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## Appoint R. Fraser Neal General Sound manager

R. Fraser Neal, 43, formerly general manager of Atlantic Films in Montreal, has been appointed general manager of General Sound and Theatre Equipment in Toronto, it was announced by George P. Destounis, president of General Sound and its parent company, Famous Players Canadian Corp. Ltd. Neal succeeds Lloyd Pearson who recently resigned.

Neal had been with Atlantic Films for six years in his native St. John's, Nfld., New York and Toronto as well as head office in Montreal. Originally a trust company accountant in St. John's, he moved into the retail trade in 1951 and in 1955 organized and managed Musical Clock Ltd., engaged in photographic, jewellery and musical sales. Part of his duties was setting up wholesale distribution of photographic and photo finishing dealerships throughout Newfoundland.

With Atlantic Films, Neal's experience diversified to include retailing and wholesaling of professional motion picture equipment and systems, communication, educational-industrial and government audio-visual equipment and systems, essentially the fields covered by General Sound.

## Betty Bellamy returned as Toronto WOMPI head

The Toronto branch of WOMPI (Women of the Motion Picture Industry) held its annual installation dinner recently, presided over by Mrs. Betty Bellamy of Warner Bros., returned for a second term as president.

Other officers installed were: Mrs. Vickie Knight (Century Theatres Management), 1st vice-president; Florence Van Heek (Famous Players), 2nd vice-president; Mrs. Florence Merlina (theatre owner), treasurer; May Levandusky (Famous Players), recording secreatry, and Mrs. Helen Partridge (B & F Theatres), corresponding secretary.

Alex Stewart, this year's winner of the Variety Tent 28, Heart Award, emceed the dinner and the guest speaker was Gerald Pratley, director of the Ontario Science Centre's film theatre program and CBC broadcaster.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the annual Community Service Award to Billie Walker of Warner Bros. for her efforts throughout the year in providing entertainment to the senior citizens of Toronto's Laughlen Lodge and Second Mile Club.

# IT'S MY BAG

## By Ed Hocura

**Alex Stewart** received a special tribute this past week that everyone who knew him felt was long overdue. This was the **Heart Award** presented to Stewart by **Variety Tent 28** of Toronto. It was given to him for his long and rewarding contribution in making 1969 one of the biggest years in the history of **Variety Tent 28,** as well as pointing up the fact that he let nothing stand in his way to do any job that other **Variety Club** members might have shied away from tackling. His record as executive director of the **Motion Picture Institute of Canada** also proved his capabilities. Too many people in the film industry failed to recognize his achievements in the past months. But whether it was lining up **Academy Award** promotions, discussing tie-in promotions with major manufacturing companies and dozens of other ideas that would be beneficial to the film industry, **Alex Stewart** never worried that he was going after things all by himself. His was a frustrating task since he received little or no co-operation from the people who, in the long run, would reap the benefits from his efforts. But he always believed that you could get something if you went after it long enough, and his unblemished record will back him up. Let no one ever say that **Alex Stewart** was negligent in his duties. **The Motion Picture Institute** could not have found a better man to steer it through stormy waters; **Variety Tent 28** could not have found a better man to honor with its **Heart Award.** Hardly a day ever passed that Stewart didn't drop into the office to talk to me about the feasibility of an idea he had to raise money to help **Variety Tent 28,** or a promotion project for the **Motion Picture Institute.** His many years in the radio and television field saw him more sympathetic to them for promoting movies, than he felt toward newspapers. The latter he always felt did nothing to upgrade an industry that subsidized their entertainment pages in return for cruel, unfair movie reviews. And he always kept on hand a bulging file of entertainment pages from newspapers all over the country to show to anyone that the film industry got next-to-nothing in return from hefty advertising expenditures. It was a proud moment for **Alex Stewart** and his family when an overflowing crowd rose to their feet when he was presented with the coveted **Heart Award.** It's always nice to see a group of people give their unanimous applause to a deserving man receiving a deserved award. I count myself lucky to have known someone like **Alex Stewart** in my lifetime. The film industry owes him a debt of gratitude for his past accomplishments. They should know only too well that few men have done so much in such a short time.

ALEX STEWART

* * *

NAMES THAT PASS IN THE NIGHT: **Gerald Pratley,** looking fresh and relaxed after a couple of busy weeks covering the **Cannes Film Festival** for the **CBC,** was a good choice for the **Toronto WOMPI** as guest speaker at their annual meeting. Pratley paid tribute to the late **Hy Bossin** for giving him a job years ago when he first started on a freelance career that has seen him become one of the best commentators and reviewers of the film scene in the country. He also managed to make a plug for the **Ontario Film Theatre,** of which he is the director, come off as a thoughtful, intelligent report on the efforts of his co-workers to bring to Toronto moviegoers the opportunity to see films not ordinarily shown in most theatres. All in all, Pratley came through with what amounted to a refreshing talk at an industry function.

IN MEMORIAM: Sympathy is extended to **George H. Beeston,** treasurer of the **Canadian Picture Pioneers Trust Fund,** whose wife passed away on May 20 . . . Two other film executives suffered tragic losses with the deaths of their mothers recently. They are **Irving Stern,** Canadian general manager of **Warner Bros., and Ron Emilio,** Canadian general manager of **MGM.**

BRYAN UPJOHN

## MGM sales supervisor post for Bryan Upjohn

Bryan Upjohn has been appointed sales supervisor for MGM Pictures of Canada Ltd. Upjohn will be working with Canadian general manager Ron Emilio in the co-ordination of sales and bookings with circuits ad independents across the country.

Upjohn started his career in the film industry at Seven Arts, later working as a booker at Famous Players and MGM. Just prior to his return to Toronto, he was in charge of the MGM branch in Winnipeg.

Marcus Trester who has been with MGM for 41 years replaces Bryan as district sales representative in Winnipeg; Dave Gilfillan remains in Vancouver as does Syd Sniderman in Calgary, Harry Imperial in Toronto, Roger Chartrand in Montreal and Eric Golding in Saint John.

To further streamline the Canadian operation, the accounts receivable for the three western provinces has been brought into the Toronto head office and Mary Saski has been transferred from Winnipeg to head up this department.

Accounts receivable for the Atlantic provinces previously handled in Saint John are now being handled by the Montreal branch with Belle Corber, resident Montreal staffer heading up this department.

## 'Strawberry Statement' wins Cannes Jury Prize

MGM's The Strawberry Statement won the Jury Prize at the recent Cannes Film Festival.

The first film for director Stuart Hagmann, The Strawberry Statement received enthusiastic ovations following its screenings and critical acclaim by reviewers at the Festival. The film will be released in the U.S. and Canada this month.

FROM CONTINENTAL FOR 1970

Motion Picture Division of
The Walter Reade Organization Inc.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| VIRGINIA McKENNA · BILL TRAVERS<br>**An Elephant Called Slowly**<br>Color | WILLIAM HOLDEN<br>VIRNA LISI<br>BOURVIL<br>"THE CHRISTMAS TREE"<br>Color | Mickey Spillane's<br>**The Delta Factor**<br>Color |
| Beryl Reid<br>Harry Andrews<br>Peter McEnery<br>**ENTERTAINING MR. SLOANE**<br>Color | PIER ANGELI<br>**Every Bastard a King**<br>Color | John Marley Lynn Carlin<br>Gena Rowlands Seymour Cassel<br>JOHN CASSAVETES'<br>**FACES** |
| **"Johnny Cash"**<br>THE MAN HIS WORLD HIS MUSIC!<br>Color | Stuart Whitman<br>Elke Sommer<br>Curt Jurgens<br>**THE KILLER HEROES** Color | **'MEDITERRANEAN HOLIDAY'**<br>YOUR HOST BURL IVES<br>Color |
| PETER McENERY DIANE CILENTO<br>GLENDA JACKSON IN<br>**NEGATIVES**<br>Color | **NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD** | Stephen Boyd Dionne Warwick<br>Ossie Davis<br>**SLAVES**<br>Color |
| James Mason<br>Susan George<br>***SPRING AND PORT WINE***<br>Color | JAMES JOYCE'S<br>**Ulysses**<br>A Film by Joseph Strick | ACADEMY AWARD WINNER!<br>"BEST FOREIGN FILM"<br>**WAR and PEACE**<br>Color |

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